

Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. It assumed a nearly spherical form late in the season, and early in the winter broke away just at the ground with an almost circular fracture. It rolled over the Vineyard hills in a manner quite like that of the tumble-weeds of the Great Plains.—CHARLES E. BESSEY, University of Nebraska.

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TWO *ERODIUMS* AT TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS. — It is not often that the collector, who has botanized for many years, in the country about his home, is afforded the keen pleasure of meeting with a species new to his experience. It was, therefore, an unmixed delight for me, to discover in a neglected field at Tewksbury, Massachusetts, two species of *Erodium* which proved on examination to be *E. cicutarium*, L' Her., and *E. Botrys*, Bertol. Notwithstanding the lateness of the season (Nov. 4, 1900) which gave an additional zest to the pleasure of discovery, both species bore abundant flowers and fruit and the foliage was fresh and green.

*Erodium cicutarium* is given in most of our manuals and local floras as of occasional occurrence, but *E. Botrys* is mentioned for this region only in the Flora of Middlesex County, where the only locality given is "Westford, Woolen-Mill Yard (Dr. C. W. Swan). A native of South Europe but introduced in California wool."

Wishing to secure additional material, as I found that but few of my botanical friends had collected these plants, I visited the locality again a week later, in company with other enthusiastic collectors. Although a severe frost had occurred in the interim, we again found the plants in excellent condition and without difficulty traced their origin to many tufts of wool-waste which remained on the field here and there. While we were carefully examining the acre of land where these plants grew, the owner of the farm strolled up to us, wondering no doubt what kind of treasure or what form of insanity could induce four respectable looking city men to wander up and down his old turnip patch, digging up now and then a weed and clapping it into a tin box. On inquiry from him we learned that the field had been dressed some years before with wool-waste, from the Stirling Mills at Lowell. This seems to be the form of conveyance selected by *Erodium*, therefore when you meet one of the species, do not conclude it is native, but look for wool-waste.—EMILE F. WILLIAMS, Boston, Massachusetts.